

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

The following listing of claims replaces all prior listings, and all prior versions, of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. – 3. (Cancelled).

4. (Previously presented) The sheet chemical cell of claim 26, wherein said plurality of anodes and said plurality of cathodes are porous membranes prepared by a slurry containing catalyst-carrying carbon powder, electrolyte, and solvent.

5. (Previously presented) The sheet chemical cell of claim 4, wherein a catalyst of said plurality of anodes is made of a Pt-Ru alloy or an alloy including Pt-Ru as a main ingredient and a catalyst of said plurality of cathodes is made of a Pt alloy or an alloy including Pt as a main ingredient.

6. – 8. (Cancelled).

9. (Withdrawn) A fuel cell assembly having the ~~sheet-like~~sheet chemical cell of claim ~~426~~ on either or both of the surfaces of a fuel supply section including a porous material which diffuses liquid fuel by the capillary action with said anode plate in contact with said fuel supply section.

10. (Withdrawn) A fuel cell assembly having a plurality of unit cells formed on a single electrolyte membrane.

11. (Withdrawn) The fuel cell assembly of claim 10, wherein the anode side of said unit cell is placed to be in contact with either or both of the surfaces of a fuel supply section including a porous material which diffuses liquid fuel by the capillary action.

12.-14. (Cancelled).

15. (Previously presented) The sheet chemical cell according to claim 26, wherein the slots are filled with an insulating sealant.

16. (Cancelled).

17. (Previously presented) The sheet chemical cell according to claim 26, which further comprises a plastic sheet as a cover of the sheet chemical cell.

18. (Previously presented) The sheet chemical cell according to claim 17, wherein the first and second electrically conductive current-collecting plates and the plastic sheet are provided with through-holes through which fuel and oxygen are supplied.

19. (Cancelled).

20. (Previously presented) The sheet chemical cell according to claim 26, wherein all of the slots are positioned between adjacent anodes and between adjacent cathodes.

21. (Previously presented) The sheet chemical cell according to claim 26, wherein a slot, of said slots, is independently provided between every two adjoining anodes and between every two adjoining cathodes.

22. (Previously presented) The sheet chemical cell according to claim 21, wherein not every slot is used for electrical connection.

23. (Previously presented) The sheet chemical cell according to claim 26, wherein not every slot is used for electrical connection.

24. and 25. (Not entered).

26. (Currently amended) A sheet chemical cell comprising an electrolyte membrane having slots, a plurality of anode plates for oxidizing fuel, formed on one face of the membrane, each of the plurality of anode plates having an anode planar shape, a plurality of cathode plates for reducing oxygen, formed on the other face of the membrane, each of the plurality of cathode plates constituting a pair with a respective anode plate of the plurality of anode plates, the sheet chemical cell additionally having a plurality of first electrically conductive current-collecting plates, each having substantially a same planar shape as the anode planar shape of said each of the plurality of anode plates, and covering all of the plurality of anodes anode plates, and a plurality of second electrically conductive current-collecting plates covering all of the plurality of cathodes cathode plates, and wherein the plurality of first electrically conductive current-collecting plates and the plurality of second

electrically conductive current-collecting plates are electrically connected with each other through respective slots, of said slots of said electrolyte membrane.

27. (Currently amended) The sheet chemical cell according to claim 26, wherein each of the plurality of ~~anodes~~ anode plates has one first electrically conductive current-collecting plate, of the plurality of first electrically conductive current-collecting plates, covering thereon; and each of the plurality of ~~cathodes~~ cathode plates has one second electrically conductive current-collecting plate, of the plurality of second electrically conductive current-collecting plates, covering thereon.

28. (Currently amended) The sheet chemical cell according to claim 26, wherein said electrolyte membrane is a single electrolyte membrane having said slots therethrough.

29. (Currently amended) The sheet chemical cell according to claim 28, wherein said slots through said single electrolyte membrane ~~has~~ are a plurality of slots through said single electrolyte membrane.

30. (Previously presented) The sheet chemical cell according to claim 29, wherein said single electrolyte membrane is a continuous membrane.

31. (Previously presented) The sheet chemical cell according to claim 26, wherein said electrolyte membrane is a continuous membrane.

32. (New) The sheet chemical cell according to claim 26, wherein one of the plurality of cathode plates constitutes a first pair with one of the plurality of anode plates, and an adjacent cathode plate, of the plurality of cathode plates, to said one of the plurality of cathode plates, forms a second pair with an adjacent anode plate, of the plurality of anode plates, to said one of the plurality of anode plates, and a first electrically conductive current-collecting plate, of the plurality of first electrically conductive current-collecting plates, covering said one of the plurality of anode plates, is electrically connected with a second electrically conductive current-collecting plate, of the plurality of second electrically conductive current-collecting plates, covering said adjacent cathode plate, through a slot between said one of the plurality of cathode plates and said adjacent cathode plate.

33. (New) The sheet chemical cell according to claim 26, wherein each of the plurality of cathode plates has a cathode planar shape, and wherein each of the plurality of second electrically conductive current-collecting plates has substantially a same planar shape as the cathode planar shape of said each of the plurality of cathode plates.

34. (New) The sheet chemical cell according to claim 33, wherein one of the plurality of cathode plates constitutes a first pair with one of the plurality of anode plates, and an adjacent cathode plate, of the plurality of cathode plates, to said one of the plurality of cathode plates, forms a second pair with an adjacent anode plate, of the plurality of anode plates, to said one of the plurality of anode plates, and a first electrically conductive current-collecting plate, of the plurality of first electrically conductive current-collecting plates, covering said one of the plurality of anode

plates, is electrically connected with a second electrically conductive current-collecting plate, of the plurality of second electrically conductive current-collecting plates, covering said adjacent cathode plate, through a slot between said one of the plurality of cathode plates and said adjacent cathode plate.

35. (New) The sheet chemical cell according to claim 26, wherein a first electrically conductive current-collecting plate, of said plurality of first electrically conductive current-collecting plates, is matched with an anode plate, of said plurality of anode plates; and

wherein a second electrically conductive current-collecting plate, of said plurality of second electrically conductive current-collecting plates, is matched with a cathode plate, of said plurality of cathode plates.

36. (New) The sheet chemical cell according to claim 26, wherein the plurality of first electrically conductive current-collecting plates and the plurality of second electrically conductive current-collecting plates each include a copper layer.

37. (New) The sheet chemical cell according to claim 36, wherein the plurality of first and second electrically conductive current-collecting plates include a gold or platinum layer on the copper layer.